

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 CEA-02 STR-08

NEA-10 GAC-01 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 RSR-01 /181 W

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R 061948 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4350

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

UNCLAS BONN 05135

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GW

SUBJECT: BRANDT REAFFIRMS IMPORTANCE OF US- EUROPEAN
TIES

1. SUMMARY: AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SECOND DAY OF
DEBATE ON FIRST READING OF THE BUDGET ON APRIL 5,
CHANCELLOR BRANDT USED OPPOSITION LEADER BARZEL' S
CHARGES THAT THE BRANDT GOVERNMENT HAD LED THE FRG
TOWARD NEUTRALISM, HAD WEAKENED THE WESTERN ALLIANCE,
AND HAD TOLERATED, IF NOT ENCOURAGED, A DANGEROUS
ANTI- AMERICANISM, TO MAKE A CLEAR STATEMENT OF
GOVERNMENT POLICY. END SUMMARY.

2. THE CHANCELLOR NOTED WITH PLEASURE HIS IMMINENT
VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES AND ACCUSED THE
OPPOSITION OF PLAYING WITH DANGEROUS RUMORS RATHER THAN
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CONTRIBUTING TO POLITICAL CLARITY. HE SAID, " THE NATURE OF EUROPEAN- AMERICAN RELATIONS IS A CENTRAL PROBLEM FOR THE YEARS TO COME. WE HAVE LONG SOUGHT A DIALOGUE BETWEEN PARTNERS, A DIALOGUE WHICH CAN BE HELD MORE REALISTICALLY AND DECISIVELY IF THE UNITED STATES CAN DEAL WITH THAT EUROPEAN PERSONALITY IT HAS IN THE PAST HOPED WOULD ENABLE THE COMMUNITY TO EXPRESS ITS POLITICAL WILL WITH ONE VOICE. . . THE TASKS OF ATLANTIC COOPERATION ARE VERY COMPLEX AND THERE SHOULD BE NO DIFFERENCES ABOUT THAT IN THIS HOUSE. THEY INCLUDE TRADE PROBLEMS AND THE WORKING OUT OF A NEW MONETARY SYSTEM. THERE HAS BEEN TALK ABOUT A GREAT ARCHITECTONIC DRAFT THAT WOULD INCLUDE THE NUMEROUS RELATIONS BETWEEN WESTERN EUROPE AND THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ATLANTIC. I VERY MUCH WELCOME THE FACT THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS STRESSED AMERICAN DETERMINATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO SOLUTIONS TO THESE PROBLEMS AND THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT OF OUR PREPAREDNESS TO ANSWER BASIC QUESTIONS SOBERLY AND GENEROUSLY. LET ME SAY ONCE AGAIN THAT WE CONSIDER A RELIABLE EUROPEAN- AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP TO BE THE BASIS OF OUR PEACE POLICY. THAT REMAINS A FACT AND CANNOT BE DOUBTED. NO MEMBER OF MY GOVERNMENT HAS QUESTIONED IT."

3. BRANDT ADDED THAT HIS READINESS TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED STATES DID NOT MEAN THERE WOULD ALWAYS BE AGREEMENT. HE CITED AS AN EXAMPLE OF AN UNPLEASANT FACT TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE NEXT ROUND OF TRADE TALKS AMERICAN FAILURE TO ABOLISH THE AMERICAN SELLING PRICE SYSTEM AS IT HAD AGREED TO DO.

4. BRANDT DENIED THAT THERE WAS ANY INCREASE IN ANTI AMERICANISM IN GERMANY AND ACCUSED THE OPPOSITION OF TRYING TO BUILD IT INTO AN ISSUE FOR ITS OWN POLITICAL ADVANTAGE. REFERRING SPECIFICALLY TO THE DEMONSTRATION THAT OCCURRED BEFORE THE EMBASSY RECENTLY BY THE CITIZENS OF FEUCHT CONCERNED WITH A TANK MANEUVERING AREA, THE CHANCELLOR SAID, " LOCAL TENSIONS WHICH WE HAVE OBSERVED HERE AND THERE CAN PARTLY BE EXPLAINED BY THE USUAL CONFLICT BETWEEN MILITARY NECESSITIES AND THE JUSTIFIED DEMANDS OF THE POPULATION. THERE IS NO PROBLEM BETWEEN AMERICAN AND GERMANS. ONE WILL FIND UNCLASSIFIED

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SUCH PROBLEMS IN COUNTRIES WHERE ONLY DOMESTIC TROOPS

ARE STATIONED. ONE WILL FIND SUCH PROBLEMS IN THE UNITED STATES OR IN NEUTRAL SWEDEN." THE CHANCELLOR THEN REFERRED TO THE LINK BETWEEN US TROOPS IN EUROPE AND MBFR. HE SAID, " THESE QUESTIONS INDEED BELONG TO ONE COMPLEX. YOU MAY PERHAPS HAVE NOTED WHEN READING PRESIDENT NIXON' S STATEMENT THAT HE REFRAINED FROM ANY EMOTIONALITY. WE SHOULD DO LIKEWISE. THERE IS NOT THE SLIGHTEST REASON FOR UNILATERAL ADVANCED CONCESSIONS. THERE IS NO DOUBT OF THE NECESSITY FOR THE UNITED STATE' S PRESENCE ON THIS CONTINENT AND IN THIS COUNTRY. ONE NEED NOT STRESS THAT THERE CAN BE SENSIBLE NEGOTIATIONS ON EUROPEAN SECURITY AND COOPERATION ONLY IF THE UNITED STATES IS PRESENT AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE AS IT IS ENTITLED TO BE."
HILLENBRAND

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